

## **KARO-ECHO Membership Meeting**

February 13, 2023

Hybrid In Person and Zoom

### **Attendees**

In Person:

Howdy Goudey	KE6BEE
Frans Kuypers	KJ6IUV
Annette McCoubry	KJ6SWK
Tom Fattaruso	KN6BUY
Hal Graboske	KK6NDF
Blake Yeaman	KN6CMP
Curt Smith	KM6HFT
Karen Leong Fenton	KK6ZPM
Jay Fenton	KJ6WSS
James Marks	KN6VTC
Ednalee Warnecke	KN6VTY
Roy Henrichs	WB6OVV

via Zoom:

Don Simon	NI6A
Jerry Michaels	K6KOP
Susan Yeaman	KN6CMR
Diane Richwine	KK6RED
David Swanson	KJ6AAT
Martha Richards	K6ELO
Michael Gold	AJ6RZ
David Naisuler	KN6BVF
Lorraine Schnurr	KN6CRT
Todd Teachout	W8BIK
Rob Johnson	KK6JNI
Malaika Thorne	KN6YKT

### **Agenda:**

#### **Call to order/logistics**

- In memory, Ginny Summerer, KF6HEX, SK
- Introductions
- Approval of Minutes

- Approval of Agenda
- Treasurer's report

### **New business**

- Spring SET date, Sat. 10am - noon (choose April 22, April 29, or May 6)
- Report on Winter Field Day
- Future meeting schedule
  - Mike Patterson, N6JGA, East Bay ARRL section manager (to be rescheduled)
  - March: Dan KJ6KEU, ARRL ARES EB section EC
  - April: Preparations for spring SET
  - May: Post SET discussion
  - June: Preparations for Field Day
  - July+: possibly presentation regarding KPH/MRHS and KPH field trip opportunity in the summer

### **Old business**

- Member survey
- MOU with EC-K Fire Dept.
- QSL card

### **Outreach/PR/web**

### **Tech./Infrastructure**

- New antenna/s and patch box/s

### **Elmering**

- requests to elmer@karoecho.net

### **Neighborhood nets and Comm. hubs**

### **Training and Operations**

- Presentation from Roy Henrichs, WB6OVV on RFI/EMI (electromagnetic interference)

### **Adjourn**

Meeting called to order.

Memorial comments were made for Ginny Summerer, KF6HEX, SK

The January membership meeting minutes and the agenda were approved.

Treasurer's report:

- 26 members have paid dues for 2023.

## **Business session**

### **Spring SET date**

- The date for the spring SET, originally Apr. 29, has now been changed to Apr.22 because of a conflict with an Albany CERT event that would affect several members.

### **Member Survey**

- We are still receiving more questionnaire results so the survey results should be reviewed once again.

### **MOU**

- Howdy KE6BEE made a little progress in an impromptu conversation with the new fire chief.
- The fire chief repeated his preference for a standard operating procedure document rather than an MOU.

### **QSL card**

- Our club QSL cards are in the process of being printed.

## **Training**

- Our originally planned speaker, Mike Patterson N6JGA, needed to cancel but on very short notice Roy Henrichs, WB6OVV, was available to speak on RF noise sources. Main points of his talk:
  - The lowest HF bands are most affected by RF noise. For emergency work using VHF/UHF radios with squelch, RF noise is not usually an issue.
  - The amount of noise can vary with the season.
  - RF noise can be conducted or radiated from its source.
  - RF noise may peak at some frequency. A frequency selective field strength meter may be able to detect this.
  - RF noise sources can originate within your house and you are responsible for that. Noise sources are electronics devices that generate high amplitude square waves. One test is to turn off all the power in your house to see what the difference is.
  - RF noise can originate outside your house such as an arcing power line, which PG&E is responsible for.
  - Computer ethernet cables and USB cable can be a noise source. The noise can

sometimes be lessened by winding the cable through a toroid core. Clamp-on toroids often do not work as well. A wifi internet connection is quieter than an ethernet cable connection.

- Fluorescent lights, both tube and CFLs, and LED lamps are big noise sources.
- An AM receiver tuned to a quiet frequency can often locate a source of noise inside a house.
- A handheld VHF receiver in AM mode with a directional antenna can locate the direction noise is coming from outside..

The meeting was adjourned.